

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-26 (canceled).

27. (New) A microwave transparent food supportive device used for microwave heating, cooking or drying of food including:

a plurality of food contact areas elevated from and substantially integral to a foundation that enables the support of food placed directly on the food contact areas, wherein spaces between the elevated food contact areas and the foundation form conduits adapted to vent the moisture from the food during microwaving.

28. (New) A food supportive device according to claim 27, wherein the foundation includes at least one interconnecting support to each food contact area.

29. (New) A food supportive device according to claim 27, wherein the foundation includes a base.

30. (New) A food supportive device according to claim 27, wherein the heights of the food contact areas from the foundation is between about 10mm to 15mm.

31. (New) A food supportive device according to claim 27, wherein the food contact areas are arranged in an array.

32. (New) A food supportive device according to claim 31, wherein the food contact areas in the array are arranged laterally.

33. (New) A food supportive device according to claim 31, wherein the food contact areas in the array are arranged radially.

34. (New) A food supportive device according to claims 27, wherein the food contact areas are arranged in a pattern.

35. (New) A food supportive device according to claim 27, wherein the food supportive device is made from polymers, paper, paperboard or cardboard.

36. (New) A food supportive device according to claim 35, wherein the supportive device is formed by a moulding process.

37. (New) A food supportive device according to claim 36, wherein the supportive device is made from polyethylene terephthalate or *papier-mâché*.

38. (New) A food supportive device according to claim 37, wherein the foundation is integral to a planar base.

39. (New) A food supportive device according to claim 38, wherein the region between a food contact area to the respective foundation has a substantially triangular cross-section.

40. (New) A food supportive device according to claim 38, wherein the food

contact areas are arranged radially.

41. (New) A food supportive device according to claim 27, wherein the foundation and elevated food contact areas are formed by a fold-like arrangement.

42. (New) A food supportive device according to claim 41, wherein the folds are produced by methods analogous to origami.

43. (New) A food supportive device according to claim 41, wherein the folds form a series of substantially triangular shaped concertina-like flutes.

44. (New) A food supportive device according to claim 43, wherein at least one end of each flute includes a triangular fold.

45. (New) A food supportive device according to claim 43, wherein the flutes are arranged laterally.

46. (New) A food supportive device according to claim 43, wherein the flutes are arranged radially.

47. (New) A food supportive device according to claim 43, wherein the supportive device is compactable.

48. (New) A food supportive device according to claim 47, wherein the flutes are connected to a foldable base, said flutes being compacted when the base is folded and are elevated when the base is unfolded.

49. (New) A food supportive device according to claim 47, wherein the opposed ends of the flutes are attached to handles.

50. (New) A food supportive device according to claim 27, wherein the foundation and food contact areas are connected to a foldable base, said foundation and said food contact areas being compacted when the base is folded and being elevated when the base is unfolded.

51. (New) A food supportive device according to claim 50, wherein the food contact areas and foundation include concertina-like flutes.

52. (New) A food supportive device according to claim 50, wherein the shape of the food contact areas and interconnections to the foundation are cut in the foldable base forming the elevated food contact areas when the base is unfolded.

53. (New) A food supportive device according to claim 27, wherein at least two of the food contact areas are connected by stabilizing bridging portions.

54. (New) A food supportive device according to claim 27, wherein the supportive device is used to heat or cook pizzas, parathas, pastries, bread-like foods and cake-like foods.

55. (New) A food supportive device according to claim 27, wherein the supportive device is used to dry corn chips, potato chips, vegetable chips or tortillas

56. (New) A food supportive device according to claim 27, wherein the

supportive device includes advertising or indicia.

57. (New) A food package including:

a food supportive device according to claim 27, and

a closure attachable to the supportive device to define a cavity there between.

58. (New) A food package according to claim 57, wherein an airtight seal is formed when the closure is attached to the supportive device.

59. (New) A food package including:

a food supportive device according to claim 27,

an open base adapted to receive the food supporting device, and

a closure attachable to the open base to define a cavity there between.

60. (New) A food package according to claim 59, wherein an airtight seal is formed when the closure is attached to the base.

61. (New) A method of heating, cooking or drying food in a microwave oven including the steps of:

putting food directly on the food contact areas of the food supportive device according to claim 27,

placing said food support device into a microwave oven, and

microwaving the food product until it is heated, cooked or dried.

62. (New) A method according to claim 61, wherein the food is microwaved at a recommended power level and time for the food type being heated, cooked or dried.

63. (New) A method according to claim 61, wherein moisture is expelled substantially isotropically from the conduits during microwaving.

64. (New) A compactable food supportive device for microwave heating, cooking or drying of food including:

a plurality of food contact areas elevated from and substantially integral to a foundation that enables the support of food placed directly on the contact areas, and

a foldable base connected to the foundation,

wherein the foundation and food contact areas are compacted when the base is folded, and

wherein the food contact areas are elevated from the base when unfolded, and

wherein spaces between the elevated food contact areas and the foundation form conduits adapted to vent the moisture from the food during microwaving.

65. (New) A food supportive device according to claim 64, wherein the food contact areas and foundation include concertina-like flutes.

66. (New) A food supportive device according to claim 64, wherein the shape of the food contact areas and interconnections to the foundation are cut in the foldable base that form the elevated food contact areas when the base is unfolded.

67. (New) A food supportive device according to claim 65, wherein at least two of the food contact areas are connected by stabilizing bridging portions.

68. (New) A food supportive device according to claim 65 including a

microwave interactive material.

69. (New) A compactable food supportive device for microwave heating, cooking or drying of food including:

a plurality of food contact areas elevated from and substantially integral to a foundation adapted to support food placed directly on the food contact areas when said food supportive device is not compacted,

wherein spaces between the elevated food contact areas and the foundation form conduits adapted to vent the moisture from the food during microwaving.

70. (New) A compactable food supportive device food according to claim 69, wherein the food contact areas and foundation form a sequence of concertina-like flutes.

71. (New) A compactable food supportive device food according to claim 70, wherein the flutes have a substantially triangular cross-section.

72. (New) A compactable food supportive device food according to claim 70, wherein the sequence of flutes are arranged laterally.

73. (New) A compactable food supportive device food according to claim 70, wherein the sequence of flutes are arranged radially.

74. (New) A food supportive device according to claim 69 including a microwave interactive material.

75. (New) A food supportive device used for microwave heating, cooking or

drying of food including:

a plurality of food contact areas adapted to support food placed directly thereon,
said food contact areas being elevated from and integral to a planar base,

wherein conduits are formed between the elevated food contact areas and the
foundation adapted to vent the moisture from the food being microwaved.

76. (New) A food supportive device according to claim 75, wherein the base is
circular and a substantial number of food contact areas are arranged radially.

77. (New) A food supportive device according to claim 69 including a
microwave interactive material.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In accordance with 35 U. S. C. 120, the present application is amended "to contain a specific reference to the earlier filed application," or as in this case -- applications. In addition, the foreign priority application has been incorporated by reference as suggested by MPEP 201.13(a) II. G.

The claims have been amended to conform multiply dependent claims to the requirements of the United States patent laws and regulations. The amendments are purely ministerial and are not meant to affect the scope of the claims as filed. Neither are the amendments made in response to any prior art relevant to the present invention.


CONCLUSION

If the Examiner has any questions or suggested Examiner's amendments, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-3195. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

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